

Two birds with one stone

As articles discussing the voltinism of *Eupithecia tripunctaria* H.-S. and also the unusually late appearance of some species in 1989 are in vogue, perhaps I may contribute to both topics by recording a single specimen of *E. tripunctaria* in East Sussex, on 23rd October. It was a male and in good condition, but whether it was a third or delayed second generation specimen is anyone's guess.— BERNARD SKINNER, 5 Rawlins Close, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 8JS.

***Crociosema plebejana* Zeller (Lep.: Tortricidae) in Sussex.**

On the night of 25th/26th October 1989, a male of this species was taken in a Robinson mv trap in my garden at Walberton, West Sussex. A second moth, this time a female, was captured at light on the night of 30th/31st October. These appear to be the first records for West Sussex.

According to Bradley, Tremewan and Smith (1979, *British tortricoid moths* vol. 2) this is an introduced species which has become established in a few localities in south-west England. No mention is made of any migratory tendencies although many of the localities are well-known migration stations.

It is interesting to note that both my specimens occurred during a period of great immigrant activity. The first moth was accompanied by *Chrysodeixis acuta* Walk. (the Tunbridge Wells Gem), *Rhodometra sacaria* L. (the Vestal) and *Palpita unionalis* Hübn. The second was also taken in company with *C. acuta*, *P. unionalis* and, in addition, *Mythimna vitellina* Hübn (the Delicate) and *Heliothis armigera* Hübn. (Scarce Bordered Straw) were present. This strongly suggests that this species is migratory, and perhaps a more suitable explanation for its establishment than as an accidental introduction.— J.T. RADFORD, Bramblings, West Walberton Lane, Walberton, Arundel, Sussex BN18 0QS.

Towards a safe and practical pest-repellent for insect collections.

It is more than a little disturbing to hear that naphthalene, that once cheap and supposedly harmless chemical used by generations of entomologists to protect their collections, was about ten years ago officially declared dangerous to health. Nor can we feel much greater confidence in the safety, healthwise, of such substitutes as paradichlorobenzene or "Vapona". In principle we are, it seems, faced with a most unpalatable choice: that of having our collections ultimately reduced to dust, or our health to a possibly fatal level of impairment; in either case a dismal prospect. Is there no way round or through the dilemma? I think there may be.

If one forgets about insecticides and concentrates on trying to deter *Anthrenus* larvae, mites, etc, from entering the drawers or boxes in the first place, possibilities begin to emerge. Though synthetic cyclic hydrocarbons and their derivatives are all likely to be toxic, to us as to the pests, might not